

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An overhead message and a method of performing channel hashing using the same are provided. The overhead message includes first and second fields of an extended CDMA channel list message (ECCLM). The first field contains information indicating whether the
5 ECCLM includes at least one frequency assignment of list of frequency assignments that allows packet data support for a forward packet data channel or a 1xEV-DV system and the second field indicates whether each frequency assignment allows such support, thereby enabling channel hashing to be performed by a packet-data-supportable mobile station of a communication system.